



1st Binational Collaboration Workshop

U.S./Mexico Red Tide Programs



June 10 - 11, 2003
Embassy Suites Hotel
New Orleans, LA

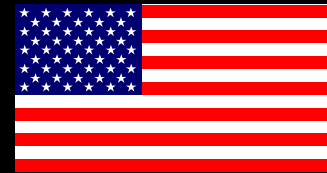
Bryon Griffith
Acting Director
Gulf of Mexico Program

Sponsored by:

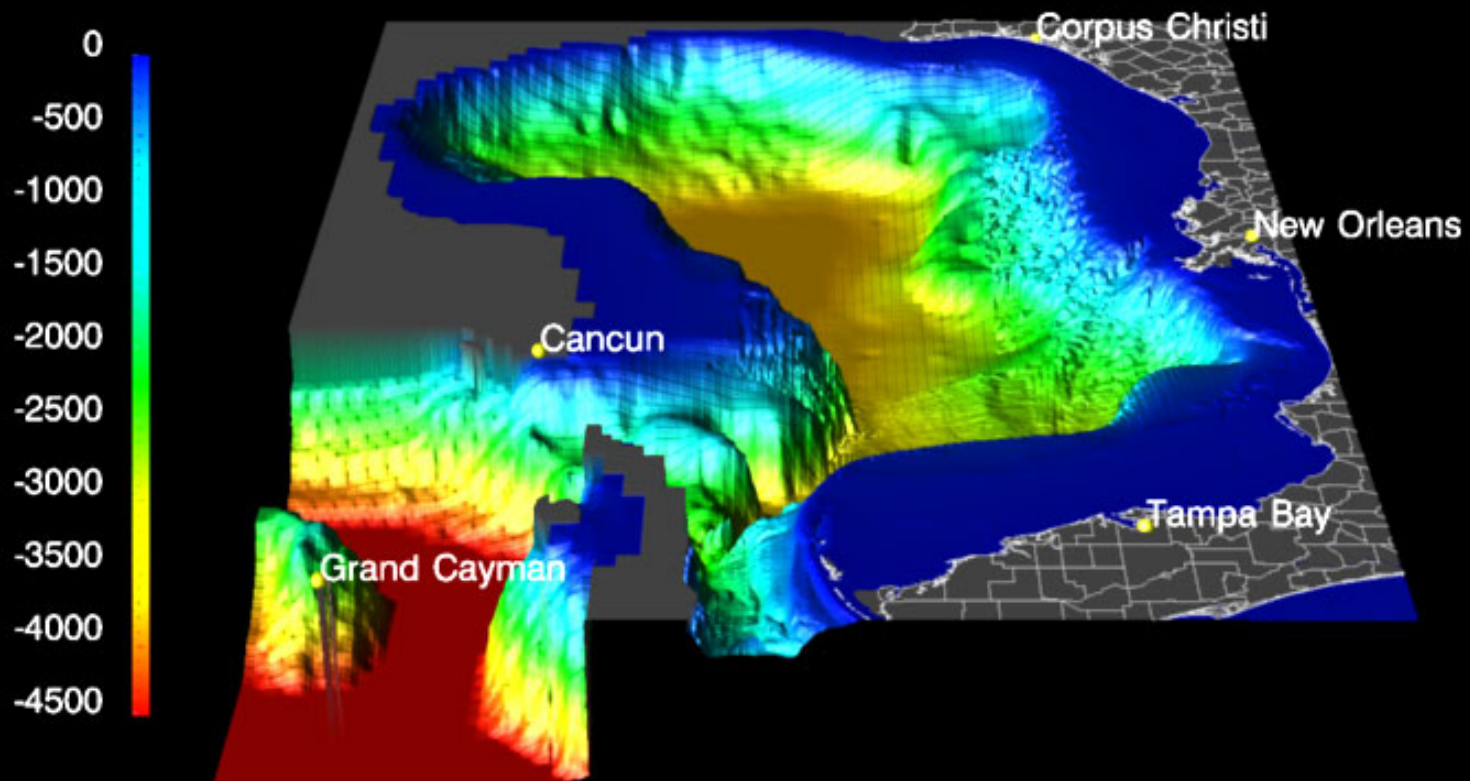




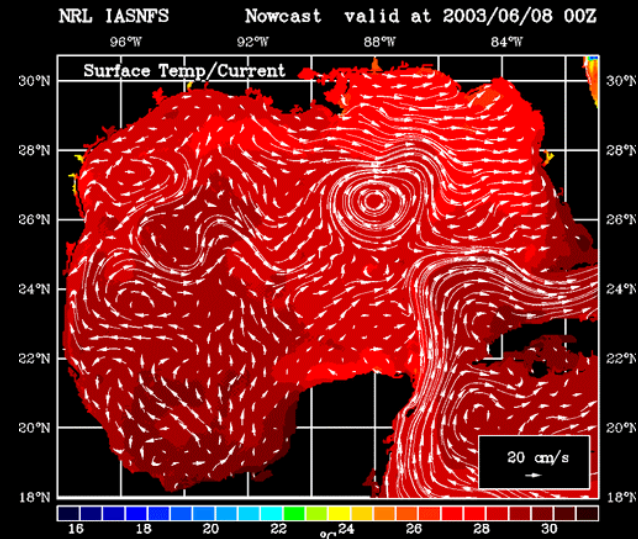
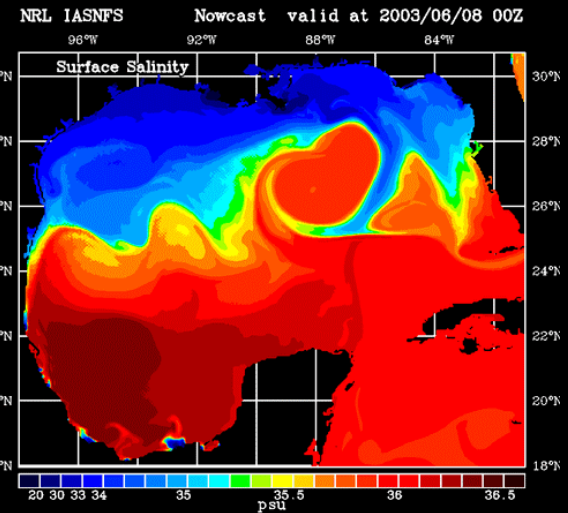
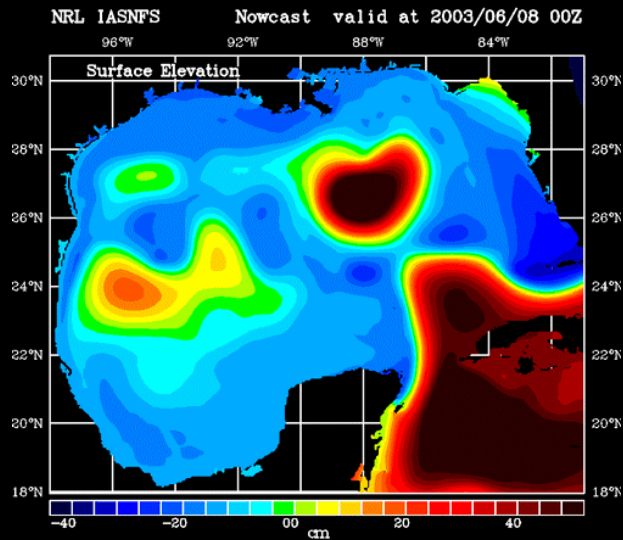
The Importance of Binational Stewardship of The Gulf of Mexico



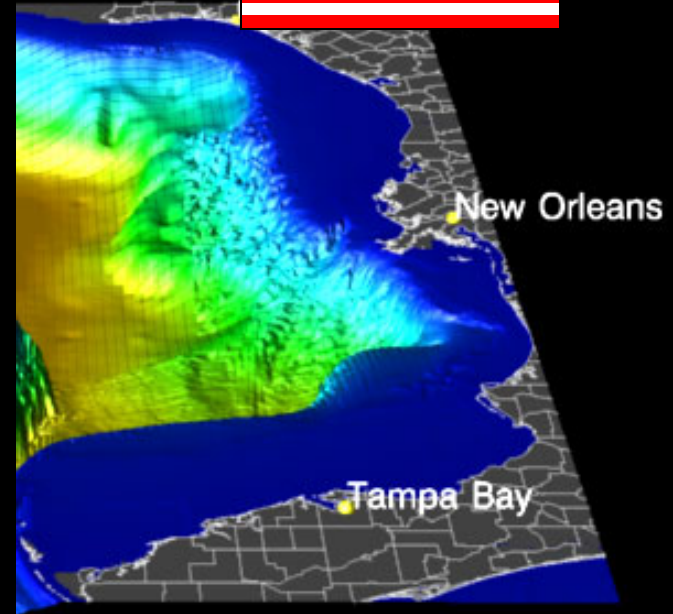
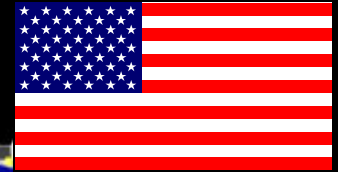
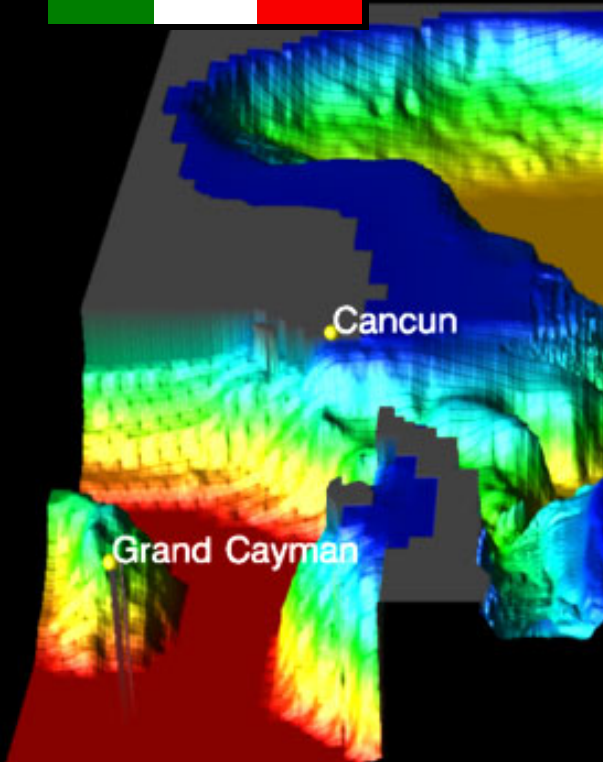
We share responsibility for sustaining one of the most important economic and ecologically important ecosystems in the world...



We share this responsibility because the ecosystem clearly shares us, and our impacts of our actions...



What is the Ecological / Economic Significance of this Resource?



Economic Significance:

Fisheries – Commercial



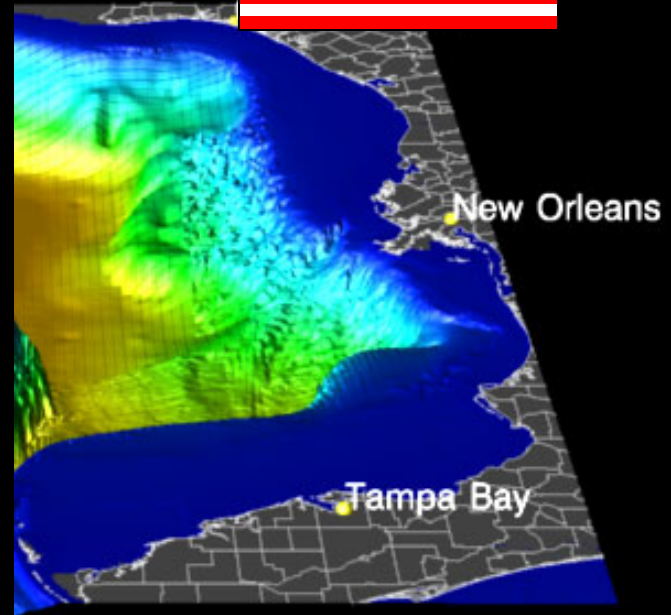
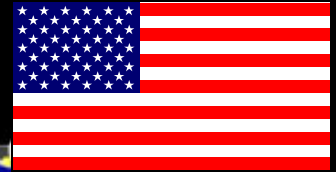
SHRIMP

- 288 million pounds
- \$656 million in value
- 80% of national total



OYSTERS

- 20 million pounds
- \$43 million in value
- 60% of national total

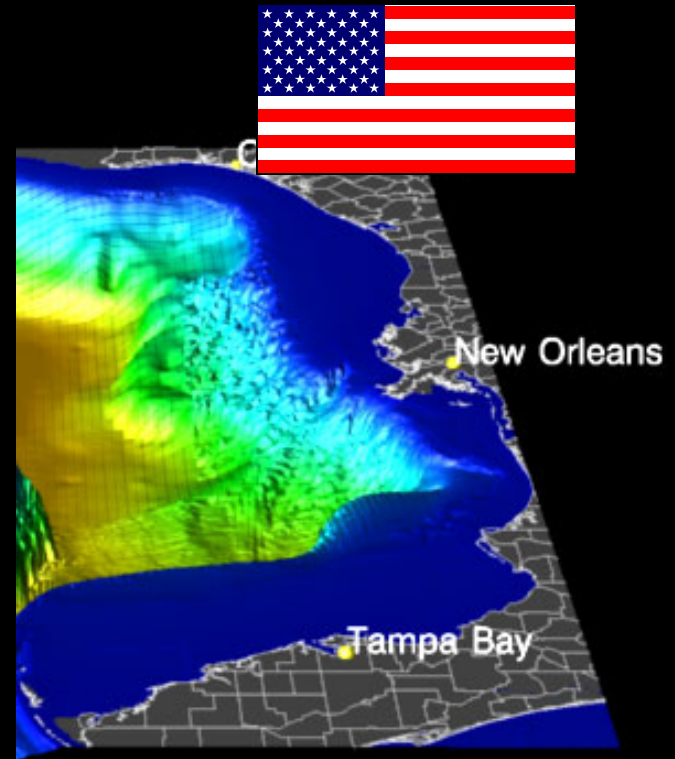


Economic Significance:

Fisheries – Recreational



- >1.9 MILLION ANGLERS
- >\$3.6 BILLION – ANGLER EXPENDITURES
- >\$1.9 BILLION – WAGES & SALARIES
- >\$7.0 BILLION – TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT
(27% INCOME)

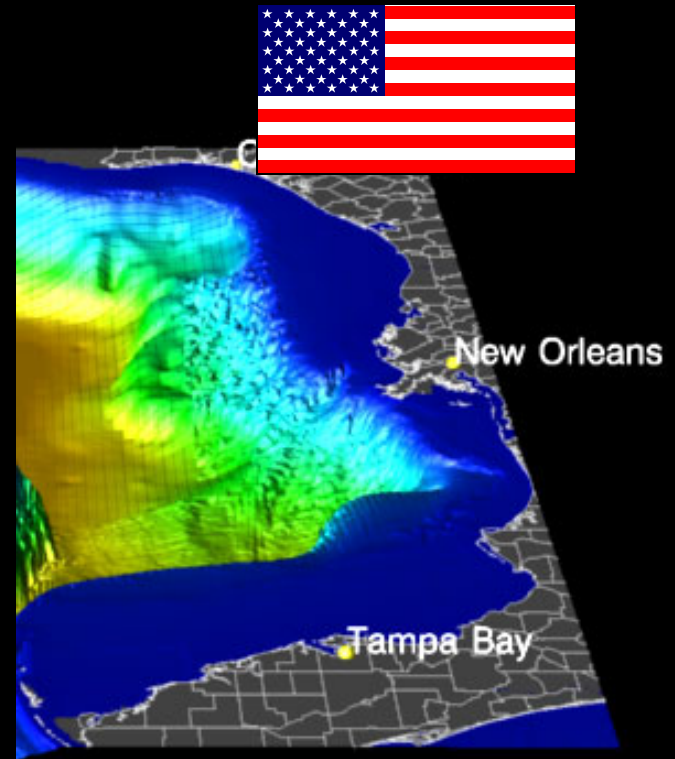


Economic Significance:

Tourism



- *>25 Million Visitors*
- *>\$16 Billion in Annual Spending*

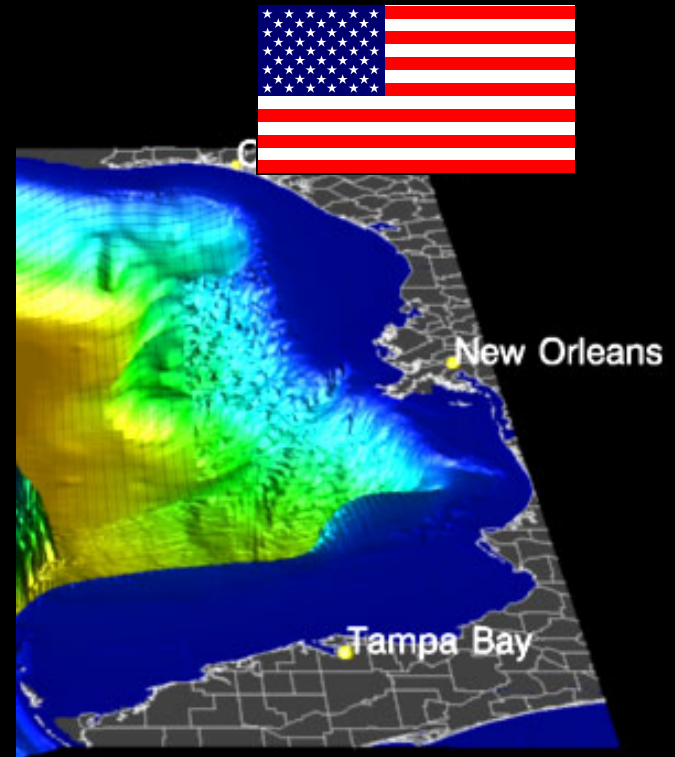


Economic Significance:

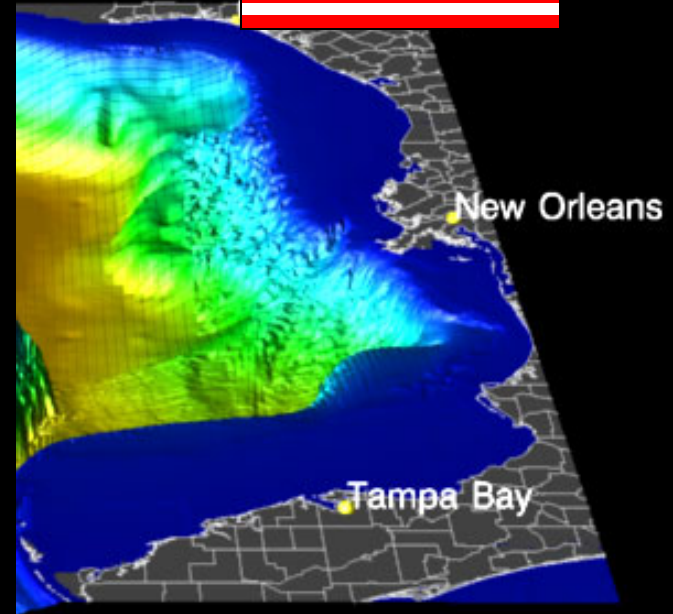
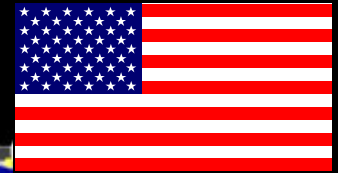
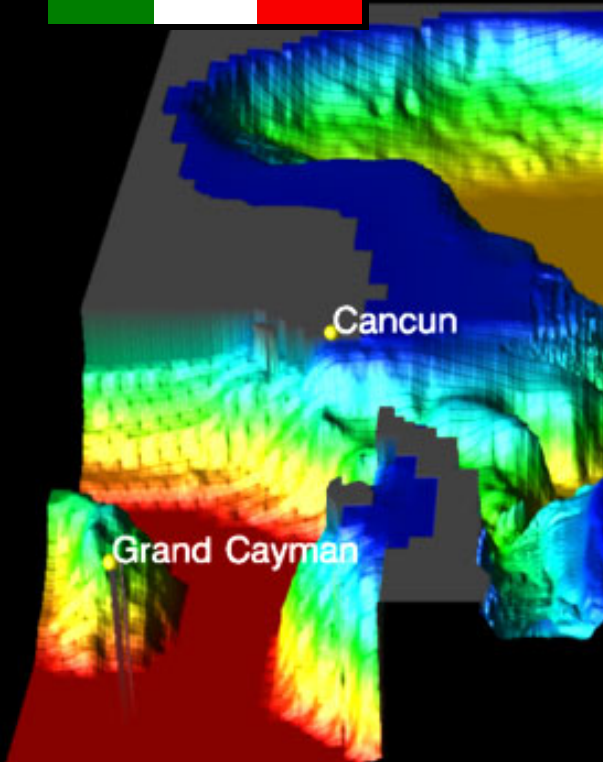
Energy



- 1600 OCS leases in production -- 90% of U.S. offshore production
- 38% of petroleum & 48% of all natural gas reserves

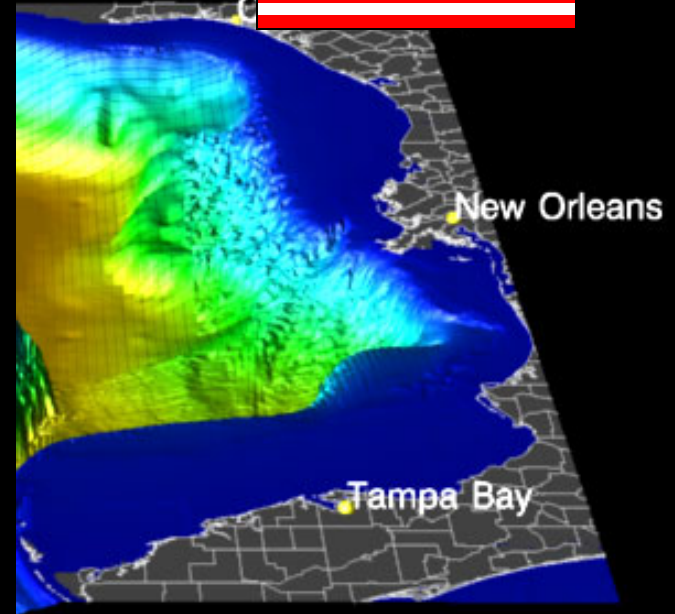
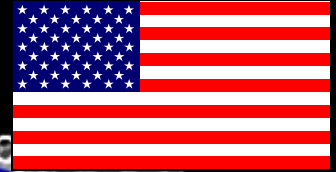
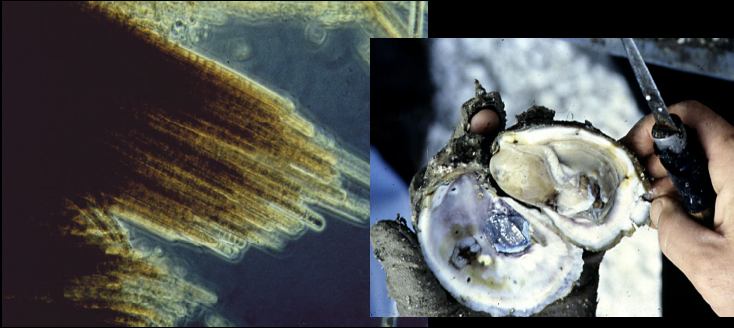


With so much at risk, we need to focus and join our strengths to address common issues..



Environmental / Ecological Priorities:

Public Health



***Shellfish Growing
Water Recovery***



***Hazardous Algal
Blooms***



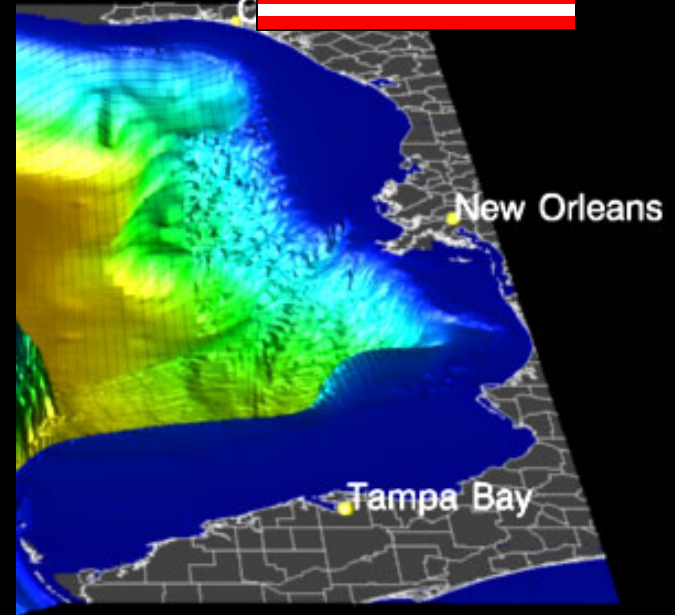
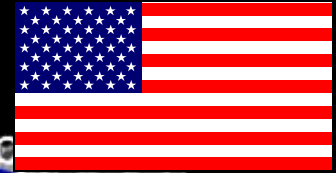
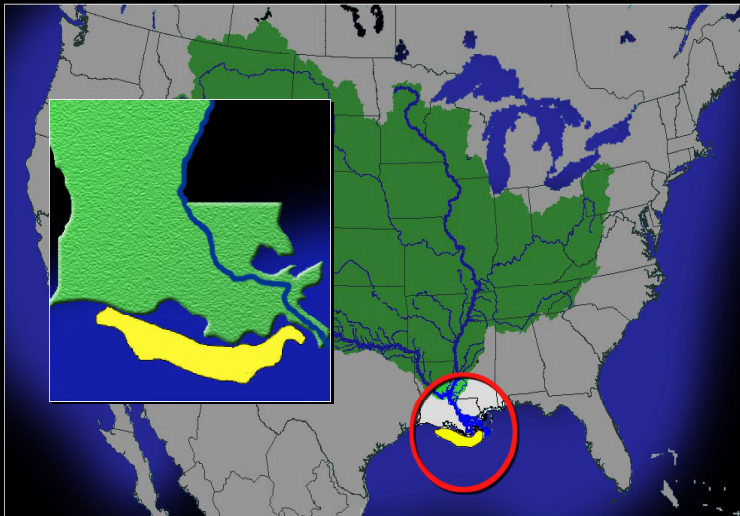
***Seafood Safety –
re: Mercury***

Environmental / Ecological Priorities:

Nutrient Enrichment



Gulf Hypoxia



Environmental / Ecological Priorities:

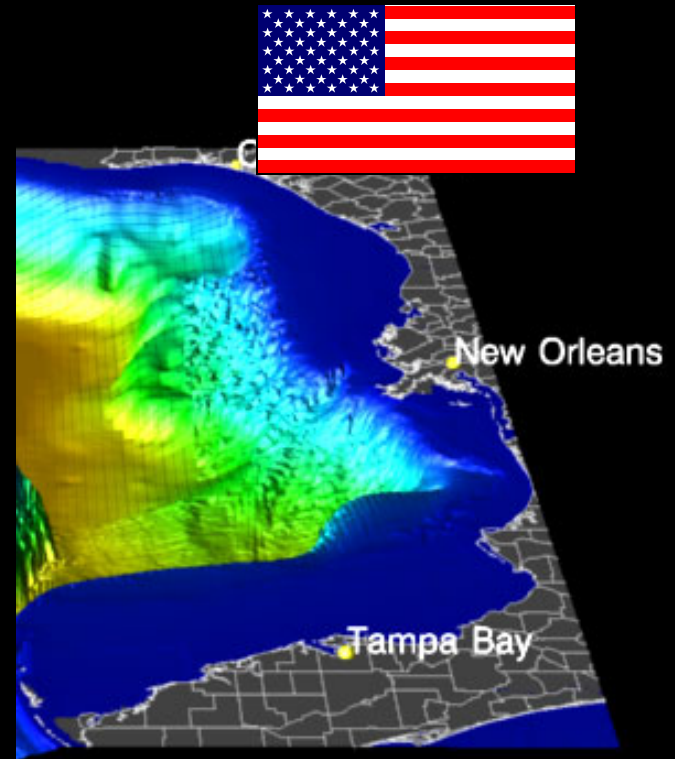
Coastal Habitat



50% Wetland Loss



**20% - 80% Seagrass
Loss**

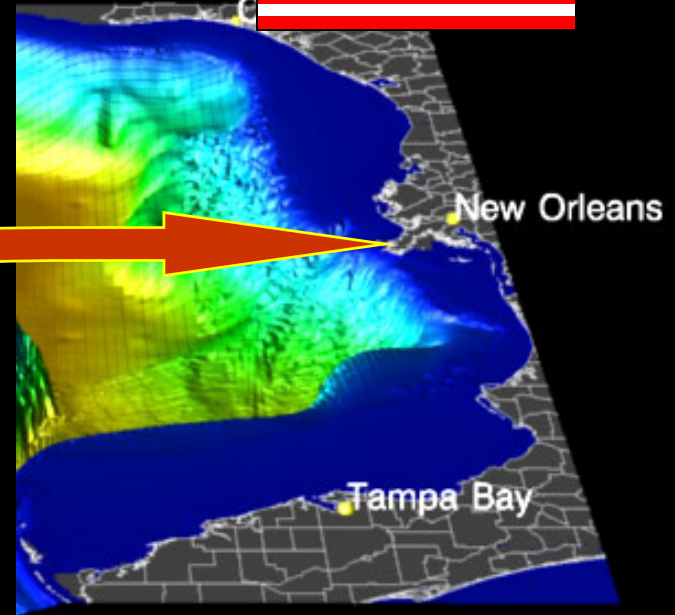
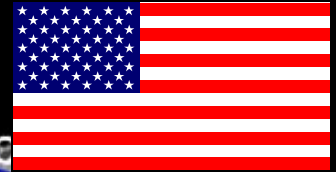
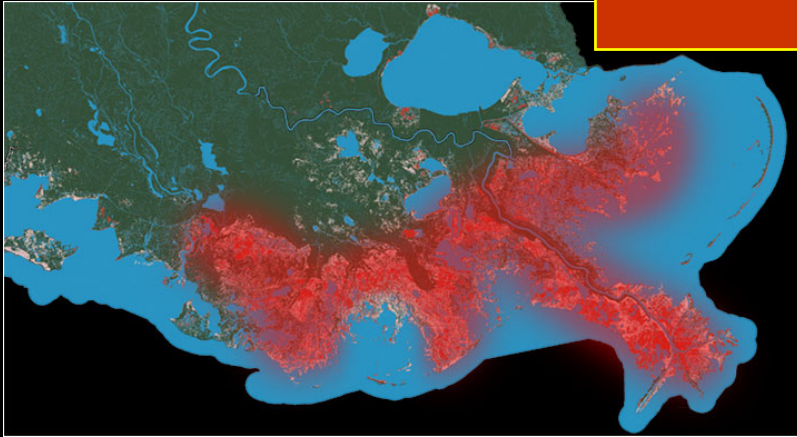


Environmental / Ecological Priorities:

Coastal Habitat



Louisiana Coastal Wetlands

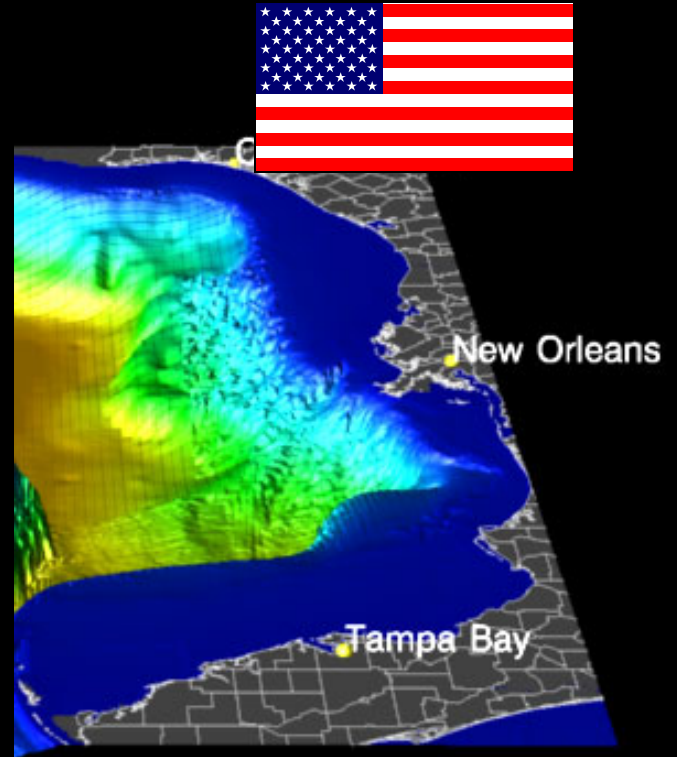


Environmental / Ecological Priorities:

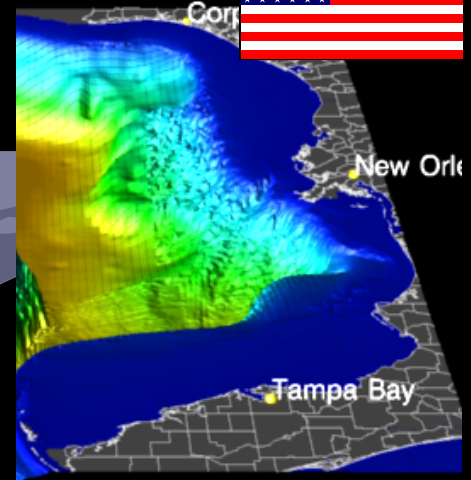
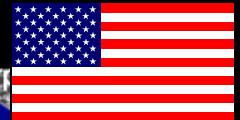
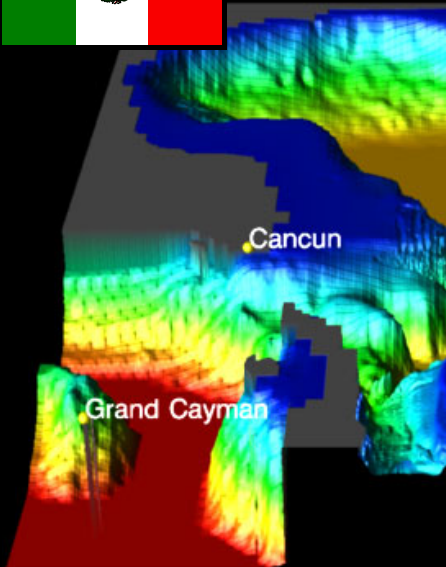
Invasive Species



Ship Ballast



“We trust that the success of this 1st Binational Collaboration Workshop on Red Tide Programs will serve as a foundation to many future areas of important collaboration.”





*One Gulf...One
Community*